

A parent's guide to  
Response to  
Intervention (RtI)

# Obtaining Help For My Child



*Changing instruction  
to meet the needs  
of all students*

This guide was developed by:



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# What Is Response to Intervention (RtI)?

- RtI is a system of instruction that supports success for all students;
- RtI provides early academic and behavioral help, rather than waiting for a child to fail;
- RtI provides an improved way for school teams to meet the individual needs of your child;
- RtI provides instruction at different levels or tiers depending on the needs of each student;
- RtI is available to all students to help them succeed and to increase student achievement.

## The Goals of RtI Are To:

- Improve the quality of instruction;
- Prevent unnecessary academic and behavioral failure;
- Provide proven, or evidence-based, interventions for all students;
- Prevent unnecessary referral to special education;
- Prevent rather than react to student difficulties;
- Involve and support parents as partners in the RtI process; and
- Support teachers' use of effective instructional strategies and practices.

PTA – 800-782-7201 – [www.nevadapta.org](http://www.nevadapta.org)  
PEP – 800-216-5188 – [www.nvpep.org](http://www.nvpep.org)  
PIRC – 775-353-5533 – [www.nevadapirc.org](http://www.nevadapirc.org)

# The RtI Process

While the RtI process does vary from school to school, the following is a basic framework for how most schools implement RtI.

## Tier 1

- All students take a school-wide test to learn who is meeting the academic standards and who may need extra help;
- The school reviews the instruction provided to all students;
- The school ensures that each student's progress is monitored; and
- Teachers differentiate instruction, or use different approaches, to meet unique student needs.

## Tier 2

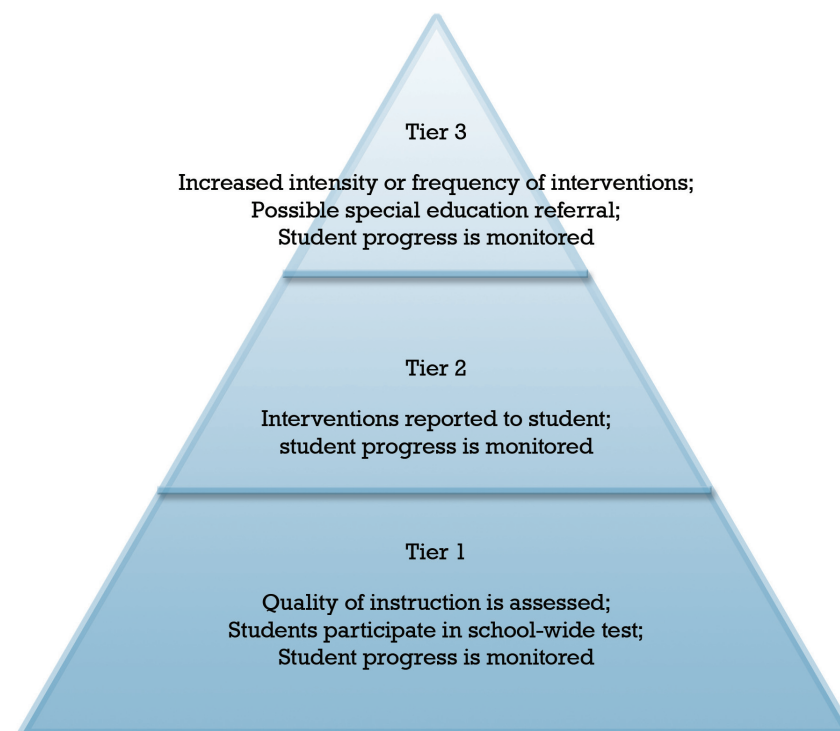
For students who are still not making adequate progress, the school:

- Gathers more specific information about the individual needs of the student;
- Develops an intervention plan for each student, including how information will be collected and reviewed with the parents throughout the process; and
- Provides evidence-based intervention matched to the need of the student, which may include: special tutoring, small group and/or individual instruction, computer-based programs, and/or others.
- For students who achieve adequate progress, the interventions end when the data show there is no longer a need.

## Tier 3

For students who have not achieved the goals established in the intervention plan, the school provides increasingly individualized interventions and/or provides interventions on a more frequent basis;

If, at any time in the process, the parents or the school suspect that the student has a specific learning disability, the student should be referred for a special education evaluation. Any information collected from the intervention process will be reviewed as part of the evaluation. Students may continue to receive support and interventions while the special education evaluation is occurring.





## RtI And Family Involvement

Family involvement plays an important role in student achievement. Successful schools welcome family participation in student learning. They strongly believe that family involvement has a positive impact on student achievement.

Families are partners in the RtI process. They need information about the process when the student is first identified as at-risk or is struggling in school. Communication and teamwork throughout the RtI process improve results for all students.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is the federal law that defines and explains special education. Response to Intervention (RtI) is a process now included in IDEA that schools may adopt to increase student achievement. Most Nevada schools are using this process.

## How Will RtI Make A Difference For My Child?

- Instruction that works for your child
- Increased opportunities for your child's success
- Timely and appropriate help with academics and behavior
- Strengthens partnerships with you and your child's school

## What You Can Do If You Have Concerns About Your Child's Progress

- Communicate regularly with your child's teacher
- Contact your child's teacher, counselor, or other staff member and ask for a team meeting
- Review RtI data; your child's strengths, work samples, peer relationships, and challenges
- Request a formal evaluation from the school



# Response to Intervention Questions Parents May Ask

- Is the school district currently using an RtI process to provide additional support to struggling students? If not, do they plan to?
- What screening procedures are used to identify students in need of intervention?
- What are the interventions and instructional programs being used? What research supports their effectiveness?
- What process is used to determine the intervention(s) that will be provided?
- How long will the school try the intervention to determine if it's working?
- How does the school monitor student progress?
- What types of data will be collected?
- How does the school share information about student progress with parents?
- Who provides the interventions? How are they trained?